# THE NEW YORK HERALD.

WHOLE NO. 6326.

STREET PREACHING AND THE AUTHORITIES. HISTORY AND ORIGIN OF THE LATE ROW.

"The Know-Nothings" and the Irish Catholics.

PROCLAMITION BY THE MAYOR.

LETTER FROM ARCHBISHOP HUGHES. MEETING LAST NIGHT

&c., &c.

In reference to the late meeting in the Park almost everybody is asking—"What is the low?" Scarcely any one who was present, or any one who has read the proabout, whilst not one can tell anything of the origin of the matter. Under these circumstances one of our corps has made particular and careful inquiry into the case, and has elicited the following facts:-

solding forth as a street preacher at the corner of Fortyirst street and Fifth avenue, near the Crystal Palace and egular minister of any denomination; but, being moved y the spirit, or something else, he made an onelaught gainst Pope and Popery. He denounced Catholics and heir religion in the most terrible terms. The Catholic the "scarlet whore" of Babylon. The eighborhood is inhabited by a large number of Irish atholics of the humbler classes, who could not, as they sassed, avoid hearing this abuse of their religion and hemselves. Their quick, impulsive Celtic nature was of storted in language of the same kind; whilst some little oys as much for the fun of the thing as from any other came behind the preacher and tilted over what se was standing upon, and he of course fell, to the infinite aughter and amusement of one part of the crowd and to the indignation of the rest. He called at he adjoining police station, and wanted to know he could not get protection. The assistant captain said Certainly-he must be protected,"and asked him if he had license. He said he had one from ex-Mayor Kingsland. It turned out, however, that he had not. Next Sunday he same again to preach at the same place, and the "Know. Nothings" assembled in great force to sustain him.

The "Know Nothings" are an off-shoot of the Order of spited Americans. By the constitution of the latter potion are excluded from their proceedings. In order vade this rule, and to become more effective in political ovements, members of the body formed an outside se ret secoclation, calling themselves "Know Nothings, nd the principles of their constitution are directly hosle to all Catholics; and they piedge themselves to vote or no man who is not an American of three generation Protected by a band of this association, West again deounced the Catholics in awful language, when a poor aprudent Irishman said, "That is a d-d lie." The now-Nothings fell upon him, and gave him a tremenous beating. Every Irish Catholic that came along and iid a word in reply to the denunciations of the preacher sey 'licked' most unmercifully. The police arrived

hen the riot was over. On the next Sunday West came again to preach, and was a escorted by a strong bodyguard of Know Nothings. pain escorted by a strong bodyguard of Know Nothings.
his time, however, the police were present in great
roe, and remonstrated with West, telling him his was calculated to lead to a breach of the peace; nd that if he wanted to denounce any sect of Christians ed to hold them up to public odium, he could easily get shurch or house to do so, and that he must not obnet the streets, or give offence to quiet citizens passin rough them. He said he had a liceuse from Mayo ingaland. Being asked to produce it he could not, d said it was a verbal one. Captain Walling then lowed him, under the hand of the present Mayor, ar scation of whatever license he had or pretented to ave. He then went to abingdon square, and indulged the most ferocious language against the Catholics, an ? reach at the foot of Houston street, in the shippard of he Mayor, on Sunday next-that is, Sunday last. Thi

nnouncement was received with shouts of applause fe should mention that West denounced the police, and aid they only went about during the day to find out ith attacking merely the religion of the Catholics, but eries of the Sisters of Charity were nothing better than hore houses for the priests. When the Mayor heard that Parsons was announced to

reach in his yard, he determined to prevent it. He said, I have allowed temperance preachers, and men who pro essed to sim at improving the morals of the people, to Adress the multitude there : but I object to making my irivate property a theatre for theological strife, and serhaps bloodshed." He accordingly ordered an officer rin the preacher when he came that he could not the is a porter in the firm of Davis & Brooks, then went another yard, at the foot of Third street, where it does ot appear he had any permission from the owner. here he proceeded to address the crowd in the most viient language against the Catholics and their clergy ymptoms of a rict were manifest, and some of the po-lee present concluded that the best way to prevent it lent language he said the Pope was a hog and a thief, and that the Nuncio was the greatest villain unhung and that he ought to be hanged. The excitement b same terrible, and Captain Squires, of the Eleventh ward, thought it was now time to interfere, and said, My good sir, this will not do, you must come with Parsons walked off the platform and exclaimed, 'I go as a lamb to the alaughter."

The police were probably under the impression that he had violated the corporation ordinance by preaching in the street without a licence, or, what they conside to everybedy, and part of the congregation was actually in the street—and, mo:eover, that his language the Astor Place riot, some years ago the police we'e that minds to "take time by the forelook." But it ap pears, that however Parsons may have violated the spirit yard cannot, with strict construction, be considered ".

14th May, 1829:-

Roperson shall be observed or instrumental in objecting or promoting any assemblage of persons, under prety nee of or for public worship or exhortation to the Fark or Battery, or in any of the markets or streets, or any public place in the city of New York, laid out and appropriated for the crumon use of the citizens, under the penalty of twenty five dollars.

rding to the same ordinance the Mayor, the Racorder, er one of the Aldermen or Assistant Aldermen, any denomination" to preach in any part of the city. The Mayer can also revoke the license. It does not appear that Parsons had any license, nor does it appear that he was "a minister of any denomination." On the other hand, he was not preaching in "a public place," only guilty of trespass if he had not the permission of the owner. The duty of the police, therefore, perhaps, would have been to protect him in the exercise of the freedom of speech, if they were able. But, in justifica so large a crowd unless by removing Mr. Parsons; and

A mob collected and went to the Mayor and threatened to sack and burn his house if he did not at once release spatched a messenger for a force of police. In the meantime, Mr. Parsons was brought before Justice Wood, ground that there was not sufficient tharge against him to retain him in custody. This led to the large meeting in the Park on Tuesday

evening last, which was got up after twe or three hours motion, showing a secret organization and pre-arrange

attracted from curiosity, and did not kno v anything of the call of the meeting; but this will by no means account

for the nucleus of the gathering or the great excitement

that prevailed. Many citizens who do not believe in "na

tivism" concluded that the right of liberty of speech had been infringed, and, without any regard to the char acter or religion of the parties, were determined to vindi-

cate that, while others believed that a gross outrage was

perpetrated en the person of Mr. Parsons, and were very indgnant. But no one seemed to know the real facts of

indgnant. But no one seemed to zoow the rest facts of the case. There were some striking illustrations of the liberty of speech at that meeting. One of them was this:—While Parsons was saying something pa ticularly savege about the Irish Catholics, an Irishman in the crowd

exclaimed "That is a lie." He was besten severely by the "Know Nothings;" and the most curious feature in the case was, that he turned out to be a Protestant Irishman.

There can be no doubt that this meeting was a 'rativist' movement, and that so small a spark would not bave kindled such an explosion and con-

flagration unless a train of gunpowder had been laid. The chief leader in the movement was

Chauncey Shaffer, the rejected candidate for District Attorney, and one of the old defunct but now revived Native

American party. He was very nearly successful; he only

wanted a few votes. He was defeated by the Irish Cathoc vote because he had accepted the nomination of the

"Kno v-Nothings," and the former voted for Mr. Blunt, a whig, in preference to him, on that ground. Mr. Plant

has been accused by the "nativists" of putting off the trial of the Irish Fourth of July rioters till after the elec-

tion in order to gain a portion of the Irish vote; and it was to this charge he alluded and vindicated himself

against in his opening of the case in the Court of Sessions on Wednesday last, where it will be seen the question whether men of the Order of United Americans are

eligible as jurors to try an Irish Catholic was mooted and discussed. The Catholics say that the meeting in the Park was intended to have a bearing on the present trial. Mr. Shaffer, as we observed, was nearly successful in the

last election for the very office whose duties Mr. Blunt is discharging in this trial. Like St. Paul, he had "become

all things to all men that he might gain some." Though

he ran on the ticket of the "soft shells." or free soil section of the democracy, he was not very soft when he met

an "adamantine" He got the temperance nomi-

nation by his devotion to testotal principles, while at the

same time it is said he took his private glass in the barrooms, and larghed at the temperance people, thus getting held of many of the votes of the opposite school.

He is accused of having or tered into an arrangement with a Catho'ic lawyer, son of an Irishman, who was supposed

quo for the votes he could procure, was to have been made deputy in the event of success; while at the same time

Mr. Shaffer accepted the nomination of the Native Americaus. Finally, he made king prayers publicly in church

while for variety he kept on familiar terms with "the b'hoys." Thus fortified on all sides, he calculated

on certain victory. But he was doomed to disappoint-

tion of the "nativist," spread among the Irish population, who determined to defeat him—and they did. Hence his

seal at the late meeting may be accounted for ; and it will

be observed that the burden of Mr. Parsons' speech were

This movement is a political one as well as religious,

and it comprises several elements. It embraces the "no popery" fanatical portion of American Pretestants and secret societies of Irish Protestants-Orangemen, whose

hold their lodges all over this city and Brooklyn, and are

far more numerous than is imagined. As an evidence of

mention the fact that recently at Philacephia six thou-sand of them marched in promission. Then, according to the Irish Catholics, there is said to be another

element at work, and that is British intrigue

West, it will be observed, is an Englishman,

and is suspected of being as much a tool of the Ecglish

government as George Thompson and others who have been fanning the anti-slavery sentiment in order to pro-

duce interaccine war and the disruption of the Union .

There is some plausibility, though no proof of this allega-tion. The Irish race in this country is undoubtedly hes-

tile to Great Britain, and it would be but natural on her

part to coun'eract that feeling, and the effects it might produce. A fourth element is that of the politicians, who are taking advantage of the excitement to elevate them-

selves to office at the next election; and they would risk all sorts of confusion, and even bloodshed, to attain their

object. The division of the democratic party in this city and State has given the opportunity to the "nativists" to

become a formidable movement, and that it will gather strength and consistency as it advances. It would very speedily fall to the ground were it not for the man-

in which a large portion of the Catholis press of this country, and, we regret to add, some of the Catholic clergy and hierarchy, have acted, and are continuing to

act, up to the present hour. Their hostility to Protes

tantism and Protestants, republicanism and republicans

has roused a spirit of resistance among a large class o quiet Americans who have never taken any par in the movements of the "rativists," and d

not believe in the justice or sound policy of

their exclusive principles. The manner in which

and the public honors he has received, while it is noto

Italy, contrasted with the denunciations of the Catholic

press against Thomas Francis Meagher, an Irish Cathe publicanism for all Europe as well as for Ireland-these

things, with the incipient growlings already heard against

John Mitchel, an Irish Protestant, who sacrificed him-

self for the cause of republicanism in Ireland, have

largely contributed to evoke the spiri: that was evinced at the meeting in the Park. Two other causes that have fanned the flame is the preaching of Gavazzi and the

recent revival of the question of separate education for

Catholics, which, under the auspices of Blahop Hughes,

led to such dangerous excitement in this city ten or twelve years ago, and nearly ended in a civil emente,

whose dreadful consequences no human being could cal

mediately, to the movement of which the meeting in the Park was but an outward and visible sign. The moral to be derived from it is, that it is a very dangerous thing to interiere with the liberty of speech in a free country, and that it is better to let it have the fullest scope, even

to licentiousness, than to take away by physical force even the color of that right. Gavazzi was very violent

against the Catholics; but because he was not opposed by

violence the excitement soon subsided, and his audiences became small by degrees, till at last he has very few indred to listen to him. Had he been attacked he would have gained a tremendous influence in the sountry.

Had Rev. Mr. Parsons been allowed the same swing

there would have been no excitement now nor any meetten the letter he did, about defending Catholic churches and convents against imaginary assaults, the excite-

likely to do under such a powerful atimulus. The cry of

"To arms!" in the Park was only the voice of an obscure

Reverend Bretiren of the Chergy and Dearly Beloved Children of the Laity, Health and Benedi tion in Christ our Lord: It has been communicated to us that certain persons,

aiming to be ministers of religion, have thought it proper to preach in the public streets in such a manner as to geite against us the batred of our fellow citizens who are ot Catholics. The object of this communication is to re

quest you to avoid all such preachings, and to leave the parties who approve of them to the entire and perfect enjoyment of their choice. The Catholic community of New

York have merited well of their fellow-citizens by their uni'orm moderation and respect for the laws of their

country and the authorities of its government. I fear that this system of street preaching is intended as a snare, and I hope that no Catholic will allow himself to be caught

thereby. Let every man who chooses to preach in the

voice can be heard, lest, owing to human infirmity, a rea-

if its faint echoes had been allowed to die away.

were young and handsome. There did not seem to be any 'great amount of excitement; but the speaker was heartily applauded in the more vituperative portions of his lecture. He spoke, in substance, as follows:—
The time has come when all those who values the institutions of eur country are loudly called upon to stand forth holdly in their defence and guard them with jealous care. It is true the election is past, and the disappointed demagogue and Papist have retired for the present from the field of public action, and the successful seeker of political pover and position will wrap himself in the manite of indifference; but the true lover of his country, and who labors for and heartily desires the promotion of his country's good, will not only continue to watch but will continue to each. Every day we live we find occasion for renewed vigitants and activity. We have in our mids assembling far more maligoant and destructive than any physical but a moral epidennic—a malignant, festering, and desolating postilence, that treads the hateful paths of drunkenness, in deriston of the light, and claims the universe. Amon as its virtims. It is worse than the universe of man as its virtims. It is worse than the universe of man as its virtims, it is worse than the universe of the stilled and being a surface and the of department of sin, "the mother of hateful coad being—as a curse to the transplant of the stilled even and the crushing to all the noble faculties of the stilled and being—as a curse to the transplant of sin," the mother of hateful coad being—as a curse to the transplant of sin," the mother of hateful coad being—as a curse to the transplant of the corruption, disgrace and infamy, against which earth revolts—heaven hursi its judgements, and whose kindred hell itself would blush to recognize. \* "They have long since considered themselves to far his superior in these respects, that the isali usy of the cld gentle man is so provoked that the kales every travership opportunity he can to kick up a dust and upbraid them

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himself to the preponderating point, to do anything that is mean and contemptible, and to further any measures that will tead, sooner or later, to destroy the fundamental principles of our government, annihilate our institutions, and reader us the slaves of Rome. We, the free estimates of the United States, claim to be the lovers of order, in opposition to confusion; but, if airli

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH. From Washington City.
APPEOPRIATION FOR SIX STRAW PRIGATES—ILLINGS
OF BON. MRS. KERK—THE TEXAS SENATORS, ETC.

House, at a full meeting to-day, voted unanimously to report a bill the first opportunity-probably on Mosday-authorizing the construction of six steam frigates, to be built under the direction of the Secretary of the

ting \$3,000,000 for the purpose.

Hon. Mr. Kerr, of North Carolina, has been called home by the telegraphic intelligence of the dangerous

Hegs have declined to \$4 10 a \$120. Mess perk sales at \$11 a \$1125. Flour has fallen to \$4 90 a \$4 95 per bbl.

Affairs in Washington.

[Correspondence of the Philadelphia Ledger.]

I learn from very a reliable rourse that our Mexican relations do not go on as well as desired. Mr. Almonts, the Mexican minister, here in Washington, insist that the matter relating to Mexican claims, under the treaty of Guadalups Hidalgo, shall be negotiated between him and Mr. Marcy, and not between Mr. Gadden and the Mexican Minister of foreign Affairs. Our government can hardly refuse to treat with the Mexican minister, here in Washington, it he desires to have it so.

Another flitbustering expedition is confidently talked about as coming off soon. There will be some more deluded victims, and it en another call for American sympathy. Revolutions, if intended to be successful, must eiginate with a people, and not be instigated by foreign conspirators, or forced upon a country by an armed intervention. It is true France and England may be invelved in war—but then it would not do to let that enter into our consideration of justice and honor. The war in Europe will not be a long one—the probability being that the first decisive battle which will be fought will be followed by negatiations of peace. There is no honorable way to obtain Cuba except by purchase, and for this purpose a favorable opportunity must present itself. Any attempt to force the acquisi ion will eally place if further beyond our reach.

The whole system of relecting the editor of a newspaper as public privater is wrong. It amounts virtually to subsidizing the press, and is altogether optical to an independent expression of public optimics have any consense, and to restore the liberty of the press in Washington, by disconnecting it from the government. It is thus with great pleasure that I announce to you that a thill is now preparing, and will shortly be introduced into the Senate, by Mr. Adams, as Secretary of State, under the affiliation and a Cabinet Minister,